

LOS ALTOS DOWNTOWN VISION | Grant Park Pop-Up Workshop Summary

Wednesday, January 31, 2018: 12-2 p.m. | Grant Park Community Center, Los Altos

Attendees:

COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Approximately 30 workshop participants

CITY OF LOS ALTOS

Jon Biggs, Community Development Director

Zach Dahl, Planning Manager

RRM DESIGN GROUP

Debbie Rudd

PLAN TO PLACE

Dave Javid



Summary Memo

On Wednesday, January 31, 2018, the City hosted a second pop-up workshop at Grant Park Community Center to review the four (4) Downtown Vision Plan scenarios. Approximately 30 community members attended the pop-up workshop, held from 12 to 2 pm. The workshop followed the format of the previous workshop held on November 29, 2017 but no formal presentation of the project was given. Rather, City staff and the consultant team were available to walk community members through the information, including the economic analysis of the four (4) scenarios, boards representing key attributes of each of the four (4) Downtown Vision scenarios, a matrix outlining the individual scenario elements for feedback, as well as additional boards that were provided as informational tools. The additional boards illustrated some of the concepts outlined in the Downtown Vision scenarios in more detail, such as shared streets, bicycle-focused streets, public plazas, activity nodes, and façade improvement opportunities. Hard copies of the PowerPoint presentation given at the November 29th, 2017 workshop were also available for review.

Included below is a summary table representing the preferences from community members in attendance at the Grant Park Pop-Up. Participants did not choose one preferred scenario as part of the exercise, rather were given the flexibility to choose key program elements from each scenario. It should be noted that while community members may have selected individual program elements from one particular scenario, many had omissions and/or alternations of portions of these individual elements.

From the input received, participants are open to change in the Downtown area, related to specific elements that also preserve the existing character. Participants generally favored

simple entry features that connect with nature and overcrossings over both Lincoln and Foothill. Almost all the participants support the integration of paseos and a “dining hub” and activity nodes that prioritizes pedestrian circulation. The majority of participants would rather explore underground parking versus above ground parking. Lastly, many supported affordable/workforce housing in the Downtown area, yet there was a mixed consensus on building heights, with approximately half of the participants interested in exploring three stories if accompanied with wider sidewalks, with stepbacks at upper stories.



The following are some of the written comments received followed by the summary table representing the input received on the program element matrix:

- No archway signage over San Antonio
- Something similar to Downtown Redwood City
- No underground crossing – would attract crime and homeless
- Like over-crossing at library that lines up with Downtown
- More diverse restaurant options with outdoor dining
- Love to see golf cart type shuttle in central area
- Public plaza should have an open space with grass, small shops and restaurants facing it
- 4-5 story buildings on Parking Plazas 1 and 2 with underground parking structure – relocated City offices here and convert existing space to park
- Screen rooftop equipment on San Antonio
- Move buildings on San Antonio to sidewalk – cannot see signage
- All building should be setback
- Ground floor setbacks and/or wider sidewalks, especially on First Street, needed
- No three-stories!
- Maintain rural, historic feeling like Downtown Saratoga, Los Gatos
- Do not block view of mountains
- Three-stories okay with setback
- Public restrooms
- No underground parking
- Update minimum lot size!
- Improve public transportation to Downtown

As the outreach process continues, additional feedback received at pop-up workshops, community meetings, online, and other community engagement events will be considered as a whole when identifying a preferred scenario and moving forward in the Downtown Vision process.

Summary Table

PROGRAM ELEMENTS	SCENARIO 1	SCENARIO 2	SCENARIO 3	SCENARIO 4
Entry Elements				
Archway/Signage	-	-	1	-
Art Sculptures	-	-	-	1
Enhanced Paving/Landscaping Treatment	4	0	1	1
Roundabout	-	-	1	1
Pedestrian Connection to Civic Center				
At-Grade Crossing	4	0	-	-
Overcrossing at San Antonio/Edith	-	0	-	-
Underground Crossing at San Antonio/Edith	-	-	2	-
Overcrossing at San Antonio/Library	-	-	-	10
Pedestrian Connection to Lincoln Park				
At-Grade Crossing	3	2	-	-
Underground Crossing at Foothill/State	-	-	-	3
Over-Crossing Along Foothill	-	-	5	-
Underground Crossing at Foothill/State	-	-	-	-
Paseo Connections				
N/A	-	-	-	-
Few in key locations on Main/State Streets	-	0	-	-
Balanced integration along Main/State Streets	-	-	3	3
Numerous Paseos Along Main/State Streets	-	-	-	2
Outdoor Dining "Dining Hub" Enhanced Streetscape				
N/A	-	-	-	-
On Main/State Streets, between 2nd and 3rd Streets	-	-	-	4
Bicycle Focused Street(s)				
N/A	-	-	-	-
On 2nd Street	-	1	-	-
On 2nd and 3rd Streets	-	-	0	0
Shared Streets				
N/A	-	-	-	-
Along Portions of 2nd and 3rd Streets	-	-	0	-
On Main/State Streets, between 1st and 4th Streets; and along portions of 2nd and 3rd Streets.	-	-	-	1
Public Plaza(s)				
N/A	-	-	-	-
Parking Plaza 5; Portions of Parking Plaza 2	-	6	-	-
Parking Plazas 4, 5, & 6 - Programmed; Portions of Parking Plazas 2 & 3	-	-	3	4
Parking Plazas 4, 5, & 6 - Programmed; Portions of Parking Plazas 2 & 3; Along Portions of San Antonio Road	-	-	-	-



Activity Nodes				
<i>N/A</i>	-	-	-	-
<i>Focused on Main/State Streets</i>	-	-	3	-
<i>Expand Beyond Main/State Streets</i>	-	-	-	0
Parking Plazas/ Parking Structures				
<i>Maintain Existing Parking Plazas</i>	7	-	-	-
<i>Maintain Existing Parking Plazas; New Underground Parking Structure at Parking Plazas 2 & 3</i>	-	8	-	-
<i>Maintain Existing Parking Plazas; New Underground Parking Structure at Plazas 2-3 & 7-8; Above Ground Structure at Parking Plazas 1 & 7</i>	-	-	3	-
<i>Maintain Existing Parking Plazas; New Underground Parking Structure at Plazas 1-3 & 7-8; Above Ground Structure at Parking Plazas 1</i>	-	-	-	7
Façade Improvement Opportunity				
<i>Along San Antonio Road</i>	-	-	-	1
Stories				
<i>Maintain Existing Heights in Downtown</i>	8	-	-	-
<i>Up to Three Stories in San Antonio Neighborhood; Maintain Existing Heights in Rest of Downtown</i>	-	8	-	-
<i>Up to Three Stories in San Antonio Neighborhood w/ Upper Story Setbacks in First Street Neighborhood; Maintain Existing Heights in Rest of Downtown</i>	-	-	7	-
<i>Up to Three Stories in all of Downtown with Upper Story Setbacks in First Street and Main & State Neighborhoods</i>	-	-	-	6
Other Uses				
<i>Affordable/Workforce Housing</i>	-	4	4	6
<i>Boutique Hotel</i>	-	0	0	2
<i>Live Theater</i>	-	1	3	1
<i>Office Uses</i>	-	0	1	-